Sole Source Letter

April 11, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to confirm that as of the date on this letter, Nearpod Inc. is the Sole Source for Nearpod and Flocabulary software licenses in the state of Mississippi. Any other providers who may attempt to quote or sell Nearpod and Flocabulary software licenses in the state of Mississippi, are not authorized partners. There is no other Student Engagement platform which offers Nearpod's unique, robust options and features.

I.   **Interactive, Multimedia Lesson Delivery Software:** Nearpod enables the creation of digital, interactive lessons by teachers that include the ability to add both multimedia content and interactive features for formative assessment. Educators can share those lessons between Nearpod users in the same school or district account. The formative assessment features provide real-time data during the lesson and the ability to pull class or individual student post-session reports.

1.   Creating and Editing Lessons
     Creating lessons on the Nearpod platform is easy. Teachers can upload pre-existing materials that they have in multiple documents including PDF, PowerPoint, and Google Slides; and incorporate our reporting tool and engaging formative assessments into their lessons. Moreover, teachers can create new presentations from scratch in their "My Library" using our slide editor and tools. Teachers also have the option to edit Nearpod lessons and supplemental content and customize them for their class. By offering the ability for instructors to fully customize their individual lessons, teachers can meet specific learning needs. In addition, Nearpod has an Add-On for Google Slides where teachers can embed Nearpod activities and features directly within Google Slides, leverage the flexible and robust power of Google Slides to create beautiful and engaging lessons and collaborate with colleagues when creating lessons.

2.   Multimedia Content features include:
     - Virtual Reality Field Trips (300,000+ field trips available!)
     - Websites
     - 3D Movable Objects
     - Video
     - Slideshow
     - Audio
     - PDF Viewer
     - Desmos interactive graphs
     - PhEt science simulations

3.   Delivering Lessons: Live vs. Student-Paced
     Teachers can use two different methods to present the digital content in the classroom setting. The first way they can access it is via a "Live Session" with the teacher/instructor controlling the pace of the lesson. Using this format, the teacher launches a class and issues the students a CODE so they can join on their device. The lesson is then synced to all devices. Once joined, the teacher controls the pace of the lesson, and can monitor whether students are on task. Additionally, in the live-lesson mode, teachers can toggle

back and forth between the "teacher view" and "student view." This allows the teacher to see what the students see. The second way teachers can present the content is through the student-paced method. Students are also given a CODE to join; however, the students can control the pace of the lesson. They can move back and forth between slides. Both methods generate reports that teachers can access, review, and share with individual students or the class. By using the student-paced mode, however, students can work at their own pace or on lessons custom selected for them. Nearpod's assessment tools can be used for formative assessments and offers teachers real-time, actionable data. Teachers' ability to track all student responses in real-time, allows the teacher the ability to intervene or respond to the needs of students during the lesson.

4. Formative Assessments
   There are several different formative assessments that teachers can choose to assign during their lesson. These features include Collaborate, Time to Climb, Open-Ended Question (with written or audio response), Poll, Matching Pairs, Draw-It, Quiz, Fill-In-the-Blank, and Memory Test. The variety of interactives allow for the following formative assessment types: selected response, constructed response, audio response, matching, and multiple-select questions. An integration with Flipgrid also makes it easier for educators to assign video responses. During the assessments, teachers can display or hide student names at their discretion. The Nearpod platform provides teachers with feedback in real-time.
   - During a live lesson, teachers can preview all submitted student answers in real-time, and select the red share button to push out the anonymous student data automatically to all connected devices.
   - For activity features such as the Open-Ended Question and Draw-It! tool, teachers select specific (or all) answers they want to share anonymously in real-time. This provides for a modeling perspective and enables all students to have a voice and choice during class discussions.
   - Both the Quiz and Poll features equip teachers to share student data in a graph form and enable students to review their individual answers.
   - The Collaborate! feature enables teachers and students to brainstorm in real-time and share images and text linked to customized topics.
   - The On-the Fly feature enables teachers to interact spontaneously during any live lesson as a means of conducting a check for understanding with an interactive slide at any point during a lesson. All data is collected in real-time to be reviewed, can be shared to the group, and is automatically stored in reports.

5. Reporting
   Data from Nearpod's interactive tools is instantaneously collected from Nearpod lessons as students participate and is stored in Reports. Data is continuously collected each time a student participates in a Student Paced lesson and in a Live Lesson, for use of comparing multiple data points and tracking student growth over time. Teachers and administrators can access reports for Student-paced (independent) and Live Lessons (teacher led). Administrators have access to teacher data too. There is a portion of the reports that gives teachers and those viewing the reports the ability to see an overall class view and connection for an individual student. Teachers can email a report to themselves during a Live Lesson. Reports can be downloaded and emailed to students, families, or school professionals as needed and can be saved to a Google or local drive. Nearpod offers a variety of reports, including:

- Post Session (Live Lesson or Student-paced)
- Individual Student View
- Whole Session View
- Administrator - usage graphs
- Administrator - usage statistics

II. **Flocabulary by Nearpod:** Flocabulary helps students thrive by bringing the K-12 curriculum to life. Our rappers, artists, and educators develop videos and activities that are captivating, relevant, and research based. By engaging students in rigorous academic content, our platform supports teachers in their daily instruction and helps students master standards, build vocabulary, and develop 21st-century skills.
   1. Flocabulary's lesson sequence is available in every lesson with each activity fostering student engagement and building skills for academic and personal success.
   2. Each lesson aligns with state and national standards and helps reinforce any K-12 curriculum.
   3. Flocabulary features content covering Core Subject Areas, Vocabulary, Current Events, and Social Emotional skills.
   4. Teachers can seamlessly add Flocabulary videos to any Nearpod lesson and access a library of 250+ ready-to-run Nearpod lessons that include Flocabulary videos.

III. **Flocabulary Video Pack:** Teachers can use Nearpod and Flocabulary together to reflect and respect student voice and interest. Seamlessly teaching Flocabulary right within Nearpod allows teachers to deepen their commitment to culturally responsive teaching by adding hip-hop videos to any Nearpod lesson or by using our ready-to-run lessons to kick-off a topic. With this video pack, educators can:
   1. Add the 600+ Flocabulary videos to lessons, directly within Nearpod.
   2. Access a growing library of K-12 Nearpod lessons featuring Flocabulary videos.

IV. **Nearpod Lesson Library:** Nearpod licenses come with over 7,500 standards aligned, ready-to-run, lessons for teachers to use in K-12 classrooms. All lessons are fully customizable, offering teachers the opportunity to personalize and differentiate lessons for their own classroom needs. Nearpod offers a variety of lesson types including hook lessons, assessments, warm-ups, skill-builders, and full instructional lessons. The lessons in Nearpod's content store are designed to leverage the power of blended learning beyond the mere substitution of analog tasks for digital ones. Instead, Nearpod's approach to instructional design enables students to collaborate, create, communicate, and think critically in new and innovative ways. Our materials are ready-to-run, developed in partnership with premier publishers like Common Sense, PhET, or ReadWorks to leverage assets they have created. We also create materials in-house with Subject Matter Experts.
   1. Drive deeper learning with rigorous content from well-known publishers in all academic areas.
   2. Support all learners with research-based instructional models such as Gradual Release of Responsibility, BCSC's 5e Model and Universal Design for Learning.
   3. Search by standards, resource type, and grade level to align with your instructional needs.

V. **Curated collections:** the Nearpod's library also includes expertly curated premium collections:
   1. K-12 **Social & Emotional Learning (SEL)** Nearpod's K-12 Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) supports building positive, safe, and empowering learning environments. Built from CASEL's leading framework to facilitate student development of SEL competencies, this supplemental curriculum contains 175+ lessons SEL, Growth Mindset, and Lifelong Learning Strategies, and includes content made in partnership with Common Sense Education.

- Aligned to Legislation: Fulfill state and district social and emotional learning requirements and initiatives.
- Flexible Curriculum: Embed SEL instruction into any setting, for all students.
- Whole Child Development: Provide explicit instruction for the skills students need for life in and beyond school.
- Dynamic Media: Access leading-edge media like virtual reality to enhance learning experiences.

2. The 6-12 **Historical Perspectives and Literacy** supplemental curriculum which brings culturally relevant, media rich, inquiry based Social Studies experiences to the classroom with 250+ learning experiences built with resources from the Pulitzer Center and the Smithsonian Institute.
   - Primary Sources: Enhance instruction with guided inquiry of sources.
   - Standards-Aligned: Fulfil state requirements and leverage the NCSS C3 Framework.
   - Multiple Perspectives: Facilitate student construction of historical understanding with diverse viewpoints.
   - Explicit Literacy Instruction: Prepare students to evaluate rigorous informational and historical text.

3. The K-12 **English Learner (EL**) supplemental curriculum which provides immersive, relevant instruction for EL students. This K-12 solution provides access to rigorous, grade-level, learning experiences and language instruction through instruction in Academic Vocabulary, essential skills for newcomers, and scaffolded companions to lessons from the Nearpod Lesson Library.
   - Aligned to Standards: Meet state language and content standards.
   - Recognized Experts: Leverage research-based models including Marzano, Kinsella, Fenner, CALLA, MALP, and SIOP.
   - Scaffolded Learning: Provide access to rigorous academic content with strategies and scaffolds to support EL success.

4. **Digital Citizenship & Literacy** curriculum which includes K-12 lessons that cover the topics of Media Balance & Well-Being, Privacy & Security, Digital Footprint & Identity, Relationships & Communication, Cyberbullying, Digital Drama & Hate Speech, and News & Media Literacy. The lessons take on timely topics for school communities, support teachers with classroom tools, provide real-world examples in virtual reality simulations, and prepare students to take ownership of their digital lives.
   - Standards-Aligned: Fulfill state digital citizenship and computer science requirements.
   - Make any Teacher an Expert: Implement computer science instruction with any teacher with any level of content knowledge.
   - Assess and apply knowledge with authentic practices and applications that drive meaningful discussions including PBLs.
   - Immersive Technology: Access leading-edge media like virtual reality to enhance learning experiences.

5. The K-12 **College & Career Exploration (CCE)** program which increases access and exposure to college and career opportunities through virtual reality and by providing instruction in Lifelong Learning Strategies, Career Exploration, and College Exploration & Preparation. This supplemental curriculum contains over 200 ready-to-run, customizable lessons.
   - Access to Experiences: Provide inclusive opportunities for students to make informed decisions, regardless of zip code.
   - Aligned to Legislation: Fulfill state and national career pathway requirements and initiatives.

- Immersive Technology: Leverage immersive VR to expose students to college and career opportunities.
- Flexible Curriculum: Embed college and career exploration into any setting, for all students.

VI. Enterprise Software Integrations for Nearpod
1. Single Sign On (SSO) with Office 365, Google, and Clever.
2. LMS Integrations: Our LMS integrations multiply the value of an LMS investment by driving usage from teachers. The easier and more exciting an LMS is for a teacher to use, the more teachers will use their LMS investment. Nearpod makes it easy for educators to see all student responses and data collected through Nearpod in one place. This integration gives teachers the ability to embed Nearpod content directly and gain insight into student performance in real-time
   - Nearpod integrates with **Schoology, itLearning, Blackboard, Google Classroom and Canvas.**
   - Our LMS Integration for Canvas offers a simple and convenient way for teachers to use Nearpod within Canvas. Teachers can browse the full Nearpod site within Canvas, giving them access to their Nearpod Library, Create, Store, Reports, and everything else Nearpod offers. They also have the option to seamlessly add Nearpod lessons directly to their Canvas assignments or modules without having to navigate to a new window or tab. In addition, Nearpod integrates with the Canvas Speedgrader by sending individualized post-session reports for each student.

If you have any questions about Nearpod software, or require additional information, please email: vendorforms@nearpod.com.

Best regards,

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